MARVEL COMICS
AT LAST... A MADMAN TO MATCH THE FURY OF
RAVAGE 2099
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
WHO IS HE?
GRANT MORRISON
WHAT IS HE?
DIRECT EDITION
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FROM THE JOURNAL OF DOCTOR RUDOLF MENKEL...
The truth of what humans are is unpalatable, but after studying THE BEAST, I am left in no doubt.
Unfashionable as it may be to say, Homo Sapiens untamed is a savage, cruel and cunning hunter.
A sadistic predator with a NEED to bring down and torture his prey.
He is a species that gains psychic NOURISHMENT from the pain and fear of its victim. To doubt this is to DENY the whole of human history.
GRAAOWWWLL
Torture and serial killing are NOT deviations -- they are the NORM of the human condition. Fundamental to what we are.
But only a certain kind of human has the strength and HONESTY to acknowledge, nay revel in, our splendid birthright.
Such a creature can be seen as a THROWBACK to purer and more truthful times.

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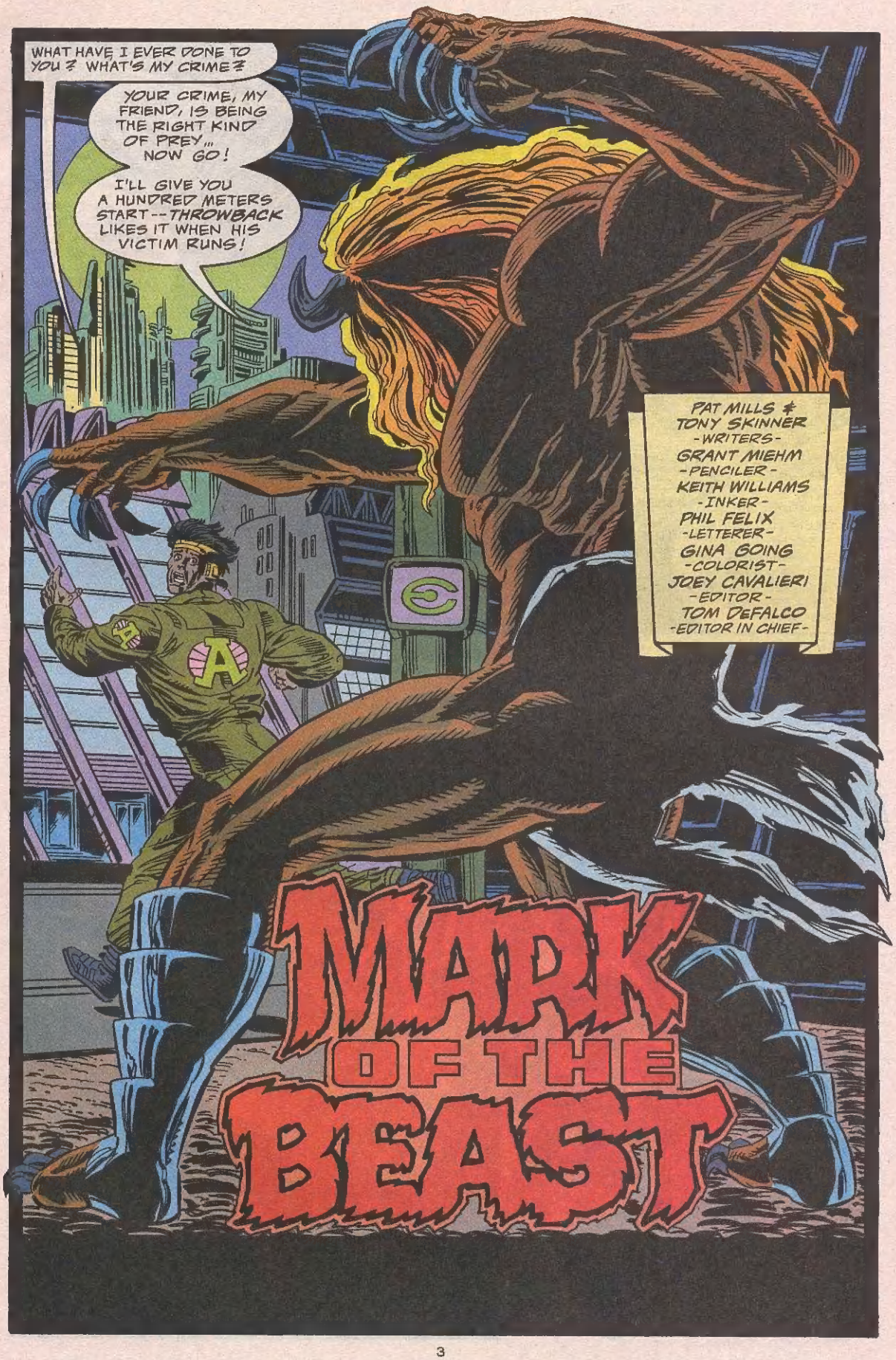
Scanned By GOTHMAN
For The HaCsA Halloween Flood 2002

The Throwback chooses his victim well... fit and strong, ready to put up a good fight.
A lion doesn't taint his claws on a mouse. He brings down the wildebeeste.
THESE AUTO-CHAKS ARE ON MAX DENSITY AND VELOCITY...!
I'M WARNING YOU... STAY BACK OR DIE! YOUR CHOICE, FREAK!
A CON-VINCING DISPLAY OF BRAVADO... UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN SMELL YOUR FEAR...
AAAUUGH!
I MISSED-- I ONLY GOT YOUR LEG. QUICK-- RUN! YOU MAY YET ESCAPE...


WHAT HAVE I EVER DONE TO YOU? WHAT'S MY CRIME?
YOUR CRIME, MY FRIEND, IS BEING THE RIGHT KIND OF PREY... NOW GO!
I'LL GIVE YOU A HUNDRED METERS START--THROWBACK LIKES IT WHEN HIS VICTIM RUNS!
PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER -WRITERS-
GRANT MIEHM -PENCILER-
KEITH WILLIAMS -INKER-
PHIL FELIX -LETTERER-
GINA GOING -COLORIST-
JOEY CAVALIERI -EDITOR-
TOM DEFALCO -EDITOR IN CHIEF-
MARK OF THE BEAST

SHOCKING! THAT'S THE THIRD PUBLIC EYE SUBSCRIBER THE BEAST HAS SLAUGHTERED THIS WEEK...
WHY CAN'T HE PICK ON DECREDS... OR MOVE TO ANOTHER PRECINCT?
ANY IDEAS, JAKE?
CHIEF, I'M A WEAPONS SPECIALIST, NOT A DETECTIVE.
I KNOW YOU'RE A WEAPONS SPECIALIST, JAKE.* I PAY YOUR WAGE CHECK. WHAT I'M ASKING IS -- HAVE YOU GOT ANY HANDLE ON WHO THIS GUY MIGHT BE?
*HE'S ALSO JAKE GALLOWS A.K.A. THE PUNISHER 2099!--JOEY
LIKE I SAID, CHIEF... I'M A HARDWARE MAN. GET YOUR GRUNTS TO TRACK THIS ANIMAL DOWN AND I'LL HAPPILY SHRED HIM.
I KNOW THE BEAST, ALL RIGHT... DOOM CALLED HIM RAVAGE... WE WORKED TOGETHER AGAINST AVATARR SAVING SKY CITY.
I WAS A FOOL TO TRUST HIM...
IF EVER WE MEET AGAIN, I'LL LISTEN TO NO ARGUMENT. I'LL BLOW RAVAGE AWAY!

GREEN GLOBE
BUT HELA... TIANA... I SWEAR IT WASN'T ME...!
PAUL-PHILIP RAVAGE CEO
FOR SHOCK'S SAKE, PAUL-PHILIP, DON'T YOU EVER STOP LYING?
IT'S BEEN ON EVERY HOLO-STATION IN NEW YORK!
AND YOU HAD THE TEMERITY TO LECTURE ME ON RIGHT AND WRONG ... AND CHOOSING THE RIGHT SIDE!
I SHOULD HAVE SLICED YOU IN TWO WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!
MAYBE I SHOULD DO IT NOW AND SAVE SOME INNOCENT LIVES...
TIANA... LISTEN TO ME... BELIEVE ME ONE MORE TIME...
GOODBYE, RAVAGE.

HOLO-CALL FOR YOU, SIR. SHALL I LET IT IN?
SURE. I'LL TAKE IT.
FEARMASTER KING! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HEY, CALM DOWN, RAVAGE... I JUST CALLED TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ETHICAL POLARITY SWING.
JUST SAW THE NEWS ON HOLO. NICE SHOW. WHEN YOU CAN SPARE TIME FROM THE BLOODLETTING, THERE'S ROOM FOR YOU IN MY ORGANIZATION!
LOOK, FEARMASTER, THOSE MURDERS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ME! I STRONGLY RESENT YOUR ALLEGATIONS!
YEAH, YEAH, OF COURSE -- I UNDERSTAND. THIS LINE ISN'T SCRAMBLED. WE HAVE TO WATCH WHAT WE SAY. BE IN TOUCH. CIAO!

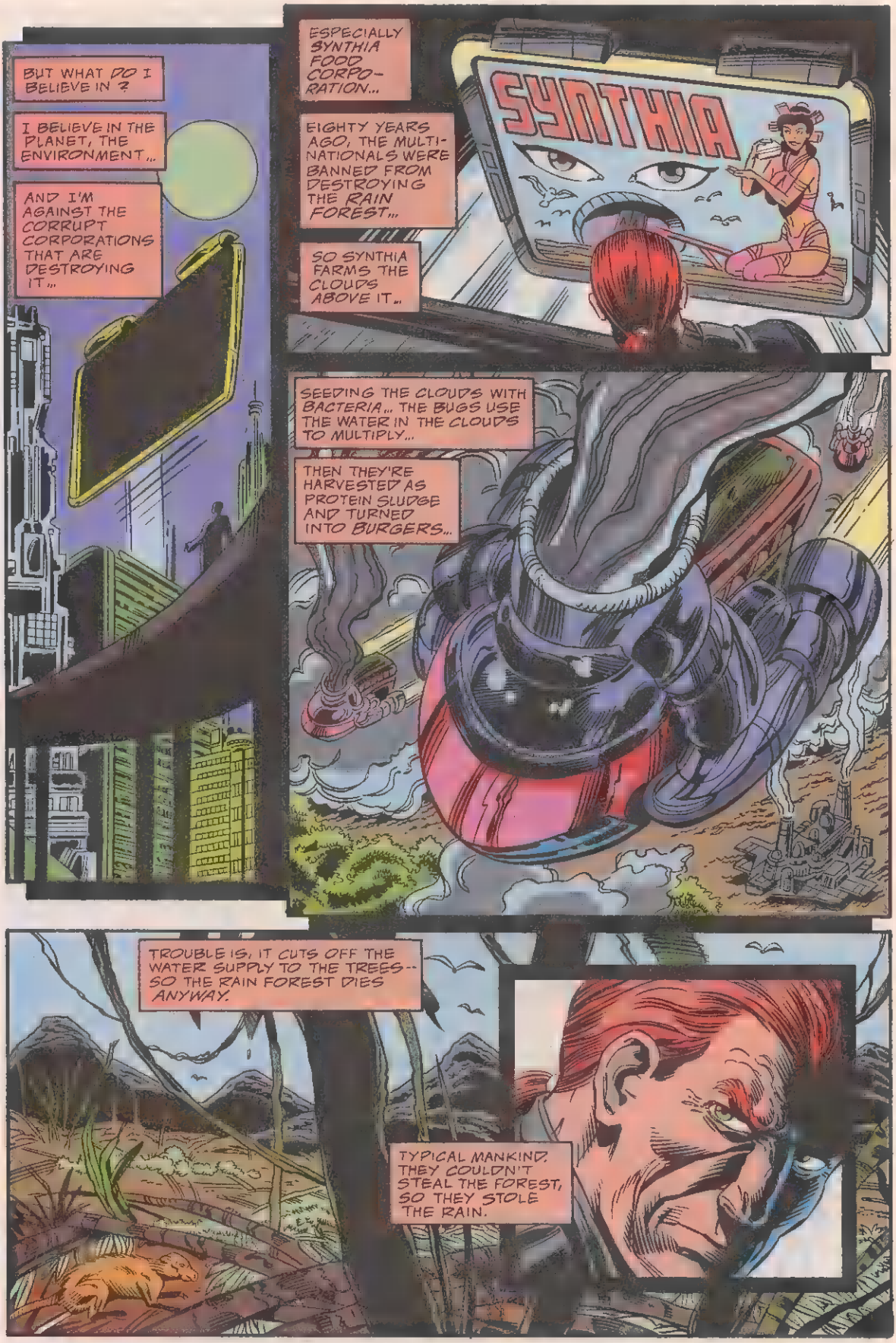
I'LL GIVE YOU "CIAO," YOU SICK JERK! I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU!
WOW! YOU'RE TOO GOOD FOR ME! I WISH I COULD CULTIVATE THAT LOOK OF INDIGNANT SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS!
THEN AGAIN, I CAN'T SPROUT HORNS AND GORE PEOPLE TO DEATH!
ANYWAY, CAN'T CHAT NOW. CATCH YOU LATER... BYE.
THE HOLO HASN'T STOPPED FLASHING ALL DAY. I SPENT AN HOUR REASSURING BARRIO MAN AND DACK I WASN'T THE MURDERER...
I'M STILL NOT SURE I CONVINCED THEM...
BUT THEN HOW CONVINCED WOULD I BE THAT THERE WAS SOME OTHER HORNED, CLAWED, BULLETPROOF BEAST WANDERING AROUND NEW YORK?
MAYBE I'M GOING INSANE... I'VE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH... PERHAPS THIS IS THE FINAL CHANGE... SPLIT PERSONALITY AND AMNESIA...

NEW BETHLEHEM ASYLUM
I.F.S. UNIT MAXIMUM SECURITY ZONE
SPECIAL STAFF ONLY
NAME?
DR. RUDOLF MENKEL, SENIOR CONSULTANT, I.F.S. UNIT.
CURRENT PASSWORD?
GENESIS 37 : v. 20.
RUNNING RETINA... D.N.A. ... AND VOICE MATCH SCAN NOW.
OKAY, INITIATING OPENING SEQUENCE... PROCEED, DR. MENKEL...
"AND HAVE A NICE DAY.
AIR BACTERIA SCREEN; POSITIVE AIRLOCK--FILTERING NOW.
YOU THINK IT'S HARD GETTING IN TRY GETTIN' OUT!!
CRAZY
ZAP

I look at my patients ... some frightened... some pleading... some inviting the pain... all suffering from Identity Fragmentation...
This is my domain... here I am God.
There are some who claim the medical profession exists to heal, to cure, to tenderly nurture.
How naive. We do this work because we ENJOY exercising our power over the sick and helpless.
GOOD MORNING, DOCTOR MENKEL.
G-GOOD M-MORNING, SIR.
NOT FOR YOU IT ISN'T, FRANK.
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR TOXIN-INJECTION...
NO, DOCTOR... PLEASE... NO MORE POISON...
I repeat -- This is our TRUE nature. It's part of our Beast birthright to visit cruelty upon the weak.
It's precisely for this reason I prefer an antique injection needle to its painless modern alternatives...
"PLEASE"...? IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO...? COME NOW, FRANK, SURELY YOU CAN MANAGE ONE LITTLE SCREAM FOR YOUR OLD DOCTOR?

IF THERE IS SOME OTHER BEAST... I GUESS I SHOULD BE OUT THERE TRACKING MY RIVAL DOWN... PROVING MY INNOCENCE...
BUT THAT'S NOT REALISTIC... YOU CAN'T HUNT ONE MAN DOWN IN A CITY OF MILLIONS.
NO, THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY.
PAUL-PHILIP.
MIRANDA, DUPLEDGE.
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT ALL THE TROUBLES IN THE WORLD ON HIS SHOULDERS.
WELL, HE HAS...
... GREEN GLOBE DIDN'T COME OUT OF THAT VALHALLA BUSINESS SMELLING OF ROSES.
WAIT A MINUTE... THAT COULD BE IT! I COULD GET HIM ON A "PASSIVE NEUROSIS" RAP!
NICE THOUGHT, MIRANDA. BUT COULD YOU REALLY MAKE IT STICK?

WHO BETTER THAN ME? I'M HIS SISTER.
THIS ISN'T THE TWENTIETH CENTURY WHERE SOMEONE COULD GET AWAY WITH DEPRESSING INNOCENT PEOPLE WITH THEIR BAD MOODS...
...THESE DAYS, YOU GET PENALIZED FOR THAT KIND OF BEHAVIOR!
BUT TO MAKE A "PASSIVE NEUROSIS" CHARGE STICK, IT WILL NEED FOUR PEOPLE TO SWEAR THAT HIS BAD MOOD IS CAUSING THEM PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS.
GREEN GLOBE PLC
WELL, ALEC, THERE'S YOU AND ME... SO ALL WE'VE GOT TO FIND IS TWO MORE COLLEAGUES...
...AND WE CAN HAVE PAUL-PHILIP COMMITTED TO THE ASYLUM FOR REHABIL-ITATION...
BY THE TIME HE COMES OUT, I'LL BE C.E.O. OF GREEN GLOBE!
I'VE BEEN GOING ABOUT THIS ALL WRONG... EVER SINCE HELLROCK... I'VE BEEN RUNNING FROM DETHSTRYK... FROM AL-CHEMAX... FROM RELATIONSHIPS...
MAYBE EVEN FROM MYSELF...
BUT IF I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM, HOW CAN THE PUBLIC?
WAIT A MINUTE... THAT'S IT!
SYNTHIA
I DON'T NEED TO HUNT THIS GUY DOWN TO PROVE I'M NOT HIM...
I JUST HAVE TO BE MYSELF... ESTABLISH MY OWN IDENTITY... AND WHAT I BELIEVE IN...


BUT WHAT DO I BELIEVE IN ?
I BELIEVE IN THE PLANET, THE ENVIRONMENT...
AND I'M AGAINST THE CORRUPT CORPORATIONS THAT ARE DESTROYING IT...
ESPECIALLY SYNTHIA FOOD CORPO-RATION...
EIGHTY YEARS AGO, THE MULTI-NATIONALS WERE BANNED FROM DESTROYING THE RAIN FOREST...
SO SYNTHIA FARMS THE CLOUDS ABOVE IT...
SYNTHIA
SEEDING THE CLOUDS WITH BACTERIA... THE BUGS USE THE WATER IN THE CLOUDS TO MULTIPLY...
THEN THEY'RE HARVESTED AS PROTEIN SLUDGE AND TURNED INTO BURGERS...
TROUBLE IS, IT CUTS OFF THE WATER SUPPLY TO THE TREES-- SO THE RAIN FOREST DIES ANYWAY.
TYPICAL MANKIND. THEY COULDN'T STEAL THE FOREST, SO THEY STOLE THE RAIN.

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING, THEY'RE NOT BREAKING THE LAW.
BUT I'M NOT SPEAKING TECHNICALLY...
SYNTHIA FOOD COR
...AND THEY'RE BREAKING MY LAW. THE LAW OF THE BEAST.
MY TARGET IS ALAIN GRIS, THE GROUP MANAGER OF SYNTHIA'S SKY PLANTATIONS... HE MUST KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING IS WRONG...
...I'M GOING TO PERSUADE HIM TO CHANGE CORPORATE POLICY, WHETHER HE LIKES IT OR NOT.
MICROWAVE BARRAGE--I CAN SMELL THE HEATED AIR.
ONE MORE STEP AND I'D BE A BURGER.
TINK!
SNFF!
BEHIND THIS WALL--ALUMINUM FOIL INSULATION.
SNFF!

IT WILL MAKE THE PERFECT SHIELD.
UH-OH!
SYN SQUAD! ILLEGAL GENETICALLY-ALTERED WARRIORS... WITH CERAMIC CALCIUM SKELETONS, EXTENDED AT ELBOW, KNEE, AND FOOT...
OUR BONES ARE MADE OF CALCIUM AND CALCIUM'S A METAL -- IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY TURNED THEM INTO LETHAL WEAPONS!
...AND, OF COURSE, KNIFE HANDS.

SYN TROOPERS WERE ONCE DECREDS... SO POOR AND DESPERATE, THEY PREYED ON THEIR OWN AND WERE REJECTED BY THE BARRIO CULTURE.
THIS GROTESQUE EMPLOYMENT WAS THE ONLY WORK THEY COULD GET.
IF THEY DIE IN THE LINE OF DUTY, THEIR STARVING FAMILIES GET A DEATH PENSION...
...WHICH TURNS THEM INTO LETHAL KAMIKAZES.
BUT I'M NOT EXACTLY REGULAR FLESH AND BLOOD MYSELF.
SKRAKK
AAAGGH!

SHOCK! MY CLAW'S SNAGGED IN HIS CARBON-PLASTIC CHAIN-MAIL UNDERSKIN...
...SYN TROOPERS HAVE THEM SURGICALLY INJECTED BENEATH THEIR EPIDERMIS.
IT DOESN'T JUST MAKE A FIRST-RATE ARMOR...
...IT ALSO NUMBS THEM TO THE PAIN OF COMBAT.
KR-RASH!
NO TIME TO BE NICE. THESE GUYS WANT TO MINCE ME AND DON'T CARE IF THEY DIE IN THE PROCESS...
SNAAARL!

SYN TROOPERS ARE NO LONGER PEOPLE... THEY'RE SICK ANIMALS.
PUTTING THEM DOWN WILL BE A MERCY.
AND NOW TO MAKE MY MARK... THE MARK OF THE BEAST...
ALAIN GRIS GROUP MANAGER OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT
...ON THE SICK MAN WHO CAUSES ALL THIS MISERY.
WELL, WELL--THE BEAST MAN. NEVER THOUGHT I'D RATE A VISIT...
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, FREAK?
I'VE COME TO SAVE YOUR LIFE, GRIS. STOP FARMING THE CLOUDS OVER THE RAIN FOREST...
...OR DIE.

AH, I SEE.. NO CAN DO. WE USED TO FARM THE CLOUDS OVER NORTH AMERICA, BUT THE PUBLIC DIDN'T LIKE IT... FEAR OF A MAJOR AIR CRASH... *
..SO WE MOVED IT TO THE RAIN FOREST AND EVERYONE'S HAPPY.
NOT EVERYONE. ANIMALS AND NATIVES ARE DYING OUT THERE.
* PUNISHER 2099 #12. --JOEY
EXACTLY. THEY DON'T HAVE ANY POLITICAL LOBBY. IT'S PERFECT, ISN'T IT?
NO, IT ISN'T PERFECT-- YOU CHANGE YOUR POLICY OR I CHANGE YOU.
WELL, FORTUNATELY I HEARD THE FRACAS OUTSIDE AND TOOK PRECAUTIONS..
DO YOU LIKE MY WOMB-BUBBLE? THE TOTAL PERSONAL PROTECTION SYSTEM MY COMPANY HAS RECENTLY DEVELOPED. I'VE GOT ONE OF THE FIRST.
TOTALLY FRICTIONLESS POLYMER SHELL...
IT'S ALREADY BEEN EXTENSIVELY FIELD-TESTED, BUT FEEL FREE TO BLUNT YOUR CLAWS ON IT.
AND IN THE MEAN-TIME, I'LL OPERATE THESE LASERS ON YOU...

THANKS...!
SO IT'S GOODBYE TO ONE MORE ENDANGERED SPECIES!
JUST WHAT I NEED!
DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS BUBBLE ISN'T LASER-PROOF...?
I HAD TO TRY...
WHAT ABOUT THE FLOOR...?
THE FL...?

WAIT! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S BELOW HERE...!
I DON'T CARE! I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING, GRIS!
NO! LIVE-STAGE BACTERIA!
SOMEONE GET HIM OUT OF THERE!
NO--YOU GET HIM OUT...THAT STUFF EATS ANYTHING!
PLEASE! IT'S PENE-TRATING MY BUBBLE!
UUH... UUUH... UUUH!
I WONDER WHAT HE THINKS OF SYNTHIA'S FARMING METHODS NOW...?
I'LL KEEP FIGHTING THESE PEOPLE UNTIL THEY CHANGE THEIR POLICY.
OTHER PEOPLE MAY NOT KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN [redacted] AND THE PSYCHO-BEAST...
BUT I KNOW... AND I'VE MADE MY MARK.

BULLPEN MARVEL COMICS BULLETINS

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Music, it is said, has charms to soothe the Bouncing Beast. Well, it also does a pretty good job on our Marvelous scripters and sketchers.

To initiate our all-new Question of the Month Feature, we thought we'd ask a bunch of Marveloids the following question: **"What kind of music do you listen to when you are doing your work?"**

Here's what they had to say.

INCREDIBLE HULK inker **Cam Smith** likes to really pump up the volume when he works. Cam said he likes "The Ramones ... or anything loud like that!"

EXCALIBUR editor **Suzanne Gaffney** has musical tastes as diverse as the Knights of the Round Table. Suzanne goes for everything from Queen Latifah's "Nature of Sista" to k.d. lang's "Ingenue."

Bullpenner **Steve Bunche** targets "King Missile or Gwar." Another Gwar fan is BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD writer **Mike Lackey,** who also flips for "Frank Zappa or the Ramones" but the music Mike plays most frequently is the mo' better jazz of Miles Davis!

New X-FORCE penciler **Tony Daniel** prefers the Fab Force. As Tony put it, "I've always listened to the Beatles, ever since I was a kid. Unless I'm in a hurry to meet a deadline. If I really need to get pumped up, then I tune in to a local jazz station and it really gets my pulse pounding!"

PINHEAD editor (no insult intended) **Tom Daning** said it was easy to pin down his answer. Tom listens to no music when he works! Tom said, sternly: "I listen to Howard Stern and nothing else!"

TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION 2 artist **Manny Galan** — whose drawing table can transform into a turntable — listens to music for inspiration. His choices are "the Smiths and the Cure." (Everybody make sure you listen to what the Manny said!) TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION 2 back-up artist **Derek Yanigher,** who is not a robot in disguise — goes for "really grungy, heavy, hard-core stuff — Gwar, Nirvana. I like my music beefy and extra-meaty!"

Assistant editor **James Felder** tries to keep up with the times. Pontificated the Prof, "I like to listen to some of the hep, swingin' rock and roll the kids are into these days. I really dig that crazy new sound!"

BARBIE FASHION artist **Barb Rausch,** like Tom Daning, works in a music-free zone. Said Barb, "I watch trash TV, and reruns, and cartoons — I'm enjoying *Animaniacs* right now!"

BARBIE inker **Mario Capaldi** said "My favorite music is opera, being as I'm Italian. But I really like anything, as long as it's good. I like songs that prove to stand the test of time ... songs by people like Simon & Garfunkle, Creedence Clearwater Revival, and the Eagles."

Staff colorist **Paul Becton** said that when he starts slapping down some hues, he likes to groove to the sounds of "big band jazz."

UNCANNY X-MEN inker **Dan Green** is quite an uncanny musician himself — he plays the electric guitar, electric bass, and blues harmonica! For his listening pleasure, Dan prefers "chamber music — string quartet or piano. Bach's Goldberg variation." Dan used to play professionally, but now finds "it's a lot nicer working at home than working in bars!"

Paste-up guy **Peter Cooper** (or, "Paste-Up Pete," as he's known in these parts) is partial to "any of the Seattle Invasion people — Pearl Jam, Alice in Chains, Temple of the Dog. I listen to a lot of different things, but mostly rock and roll."

Finally, no page on music would be complete without a word from rock 'n' roll editor **Mort Todd,** who said, "I listen to Japanese horror movie soundtracks, especially Ghidrah the Three-Headed Monster. Also, since I'm the rock editor, I like to hear soundtracks of Godzilla throwing rocks at stuff!"

Till next time, keep on rockin' in the free world!

THE BULL'S EYE BY RICK PARKER

HYPE BOX

You remember last year's THE TRIAL OF VENOM benefit comic Marvel did to raise funds for the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse? Sure you do. Well, this year we've tapped Peter David and Jim Craig to produce another sensational one-shot for the NCPCA, this one entitled THE HULK VS. VENOM! Available by mail order only, the 32 page special will feature an original story pitting these two ill-tempered titans against one another for the first time, packaged in a gorgeous metallic foil cover, and sent first class in a plastic backing envelope! Three dollars of the five dollar cover price will go straight to the NCPCA. Look for a coupon in your favorite Marvel mag or at a retail store near you and help a worthy cause while investing in one heckuva comic book!

NOW ON SALE

- **ALPHA FLIGHT #130:** Double-sized *final issue!* The flight ends here! By Furman/Carrasco/Patterson!
- **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #387:** The **Vulture** is young ... and Spidey is old! By Michelinie/Bagley/Emberlin!
- **BARBIE #39:** Barbie is *lost in space!* By Trusiani/Rausch!
- **BRATS BIZARRE #4 OF 4:** Will they be cured kids — or post mortem punks? By Mills-Skinner/Mighten!
- **CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE MEDUSA EFFECT:** 64 page Cap and Bucky epic set in World War 2! By Thomas/Buckler-Wyman!
- **CURSE OF THE WEIRD #4 OF 4:** It's monstermific! By Everett, Ditko, et al.
- **GHOST RIDER #47: Vengeance** takes to the streets as the new Ghost Rider! By Mackie/Garney/Ivy!
- **GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #46:** Will we ever see **Major Victory** again? By Gallagher/West/Montano!
- **HARROWERS #4:** They'd walk a Nile to save Cleopatra's soul! By Smith/Colan/Garzon!
- **HYPERKIND #7:** A clue lies in a nursery rhyme — and it ain't Humpty Dumpty! By Burke/Collins/Petrecca!
- **MARVEL X-MEN COLLECTION BY JIM LEE #3 OF 3:** Reprinting the X-cellent trading cards!
- **NIGHT THRASHER #8:** Secrets of **Bandit** revealed — and no, he's not Burt Reynolds! By Nicieza/Boller!
- **NOVA #3:** With **Spider-Man** and the all-new **Corrupter!** By Nicieza/Marrinan/Stegbauer!
- **PUNISHER WAR ZONE #25:** Frank's in jail — or is he? By Hama/Buscema/Mayerick!
- **QUASAR #56:** Do you dare enter ... the *New Universe?*
- **RAVAGE 2099 #16:** Ravage is gonna clean up the future! By Mills-Skinner/Miehm/Williams!
- **SECRET DEFENDERS #13:** The new leader of the Secret Defenders is ... Thanos! By Marz/Grindberg/Hudson!
- **THE SHROUD #1 OF 4:** Spidey guest stars in a battle with the **Scorpion!** By Barr/Wyman/Jones III!
- **SILVER SABLE #22:** The taking of Beverly Hills — and we don't mean the Hillbillies! By Wright/Butler/Eklund!
- **SLEEPWALKER #33:** *Final issue!* The big sleep ends here! By Budiansky/Krantz/Lomax!
- **WOLVERINE #79:** Now 100% adamantium-free! By Hama/Kubert/Farmer!
- **WONDER MAN #30:** Wondy hates the Hate Monger! By Jones/Randall/Joyce!
- **X-Factor #100:** Double sized action as an X-Factorite *X-pires!* By DeMatteis/Duursema/Milgrom!
- **X-MEN ADVENTURES SECOND SEASON #2:** You get **Morph** for your money! By Macchio/Wildman/Albrecht!
- And be sure to look for the coupon to the **HULK VS. VENOM** custom comic benefiting the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse!

SPECIAL NOTICE TO MARVELDOM: ONE OF THE TITLES LISTED IN THE "NOW ON SALE" SECTION DOES NOT EXIST, DUE TO THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF THE TITLE CHARACTER IN BULLPEN BORDERLINE BLATHER ANOTHER MAGAZINE, WE REGRET TO REPORT THAT HE WILL BE UNABLE TO CONTINUE STARRING IN HIS OWN SERIES. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY HAVE CAUSED.

LOOK, NURSE... MORE FACES ARE APPEARING ON FRANK... THIS BEARS OUT MY PREMISE... THAT "I.F.S." -- IDENTITY FRAGMENTATION SYNDROME -- IS CAUSED BY TOXICITY IN THE ENVIRONMENT.
BUT HOW CAN POISONS CAUSE SUCH RADICAL PHYSICAL PHENOMENA?
THE TOXINS TRIGGER ALL KIND OF PHYSICAL, TEMPORAL AND DIMENSIONAL INSTABILITY... INCLUDING PHYSICAL REGRESSION TO EARLIER FORMS OF MAN...
DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT'S THE EXPLANATION FOR THE BEAST MAN WHO HAS BEEN TERRORIZING THE CITY...?
UNDOUBTEDLY, NURSE. HE MUST BE THE RESULT OF SOME MASSIVE TOXIC SHOCK...
"...AS, INDEED, SO WAS I..."
"...ONLY I LACK HIS OBVIOUS MORAL SCRUPLES.
HIS RESTRAINT IS A LATTER-DAY AFFECTATION, A COWARDLY COMPROMISE WHICH SULLIES THE NOBILITY OF THE PURE HUMAN ANIMAL..."
I AM THAT TRUE BEAST...

THIS FOOL IS LIVING A LIE... AND I SHALL PUSH THE LIE DOWN HIS THROAT UNTIL HE CHOKES ON IT... OR CALLS ME BROTHER...
...SO SWEARS THROW-BACK!
NEXT
BLOOD BROTHERS

RANTS & RAVES

JOEY CAVALIERI — EDITOR
MATTHEW MORRA — ASSISTANT EDITOR
c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016
ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS. ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

Out Of My Head

"The modern day composer refuses to die." Frank Zappa took this quote from his boyhood idol, Edgard Varese, as his own personal motto. He continued to compose throughout his long illness, and remained as outspoken as he was from the start. For someone whose work was judged to have "no commercial potential," his career spanned four decades.

If you're wondering why a functionary at a large entertainment concern like myself would find him interesting...then you probably *have* listened to Zappa.

Dear RAVAGE 2099 crew,

Heck, people, I can't stand it anymore. I mean, I have read through every issue of RAVAGE 2099 and I had to write in.

I am 23 years old, a graduate of Campbell University and a comic reader for the past several years. This is my first letter to a comic publisher. I find comics to be a most wonderful medium. Where else do creative people listen to the folks who buy their stuff and actually do something to meet their expectations? Marvel has, over the years, developed a refined method ensuring consistency of quality in stories, art and being on time. Considering your wide range of mags, it's quite a mind-boggling achievement, to say the least. I enjoy your titles, even the patriotic ones like CAPTAIN AMERICA (as you can see, I'm Asian not American).

When I came across RAVAGE 2099, I was overwhelmed with joy that it was by The Man himself, Stan Lee, and co-created with Paul Ryan, who deserves as many accolades as any of his contemporaries. After reading the first six issues of RAVAGE 2099, I was excited about the potential direction of the mag and the 2099 universe in general. I envisioned many different possibilities for Ravage's powers. So can you imagine my disappointment when Stan decided to stop writing RAVAGE 2099?

Don't get me wrong, I have a great deal of respect for Pat, Tony, Grant, Keith and the rest of the crew. In fact, Pat and Tony's work on PUNISHER 2099 is positively intoxicating. But I feel that Ravage has become alien to me. His personality, his rage, the pace of the book etc. While I salute the new team's courage in taking over from Stan, I can't help but wish they kept it the same.

Anyway, enough of my ranting and raving. I'd like to wish the crew all the best. I plan on sticking around. And Stan, I can't wait to see your next creation. I'll be waiting.

Chow Man Wah
Kuala Lampur, West Malaysia

We loved Stan's writing too, Chow, but since every writer's different, there's no way Ravage could ever be the same. Besides, here in the 2099 universe, if there's one thing we can't stand, it's complacency. We hate to stand still (and with this much caffeine in us, it's pretty darn impossible to stand still!) We *always* strive to be new and different! In fact, over the next two issues, you'll see some changes in the art style. The next two issues'll be kind of a transitional phase as Grant tries out some new tricks, so let us know what you think of RAVAGE 2099 #18!

Dear RAVAGE crew,

Compliments on a superb job with issue #13. I like getting rid of Henton.

When will we see more of Hellrock?

Will Dack return with super powers?

Now that I know of Miranda's hate for Ravage, will she become a villainess?

Will Avatarr, Dethstryk or Dragonklaw ever team up with each other?

Are you ever going to make a Fantastic Four 2099?

Any new villains on the way?

Matt Kilbane
168 Bridge Creek Dr.
Goose Creek, SC 29445

We're eager to show you plenty more of Hellrock, but that's all we can say for now on that score, Matt. This month, we're introducing plenty of new villains in every title. Scope out the checklist below and see for yourself!

Yo Joe,

WOW! That's the only word that pretty much covers it. This is the first time I've written to you guys, and I think I've waited far too long.

I was skimming through (okay, I was being amazed again) my back issues when something caught my eye, the Fantastica! Yes, the FF's old (and current depending on your time period) machine was back for a brief three issue stint (issues #6-#8). Very clever.

You guys deserve a big pat on the back! This is a great comic. On behalf of all the readers out there, a big thanks to everyone on the crew (including Stan Lee and Paul Ryan). Oh well, at least you found very suitable replacements with Pat, Tony and Grant, so we weren't too disappointed.

Dack, Dack, Dack! We miss Dack. He was the most likable juvenile delinquent I've ever seen in a comic. Are Dack and Tiana coming back any time soon? Are there any plans to bring the Fantastica back?

Any plans to kill off Ravage's sister? Please say yes. I'm sick of her incessant whining about how she should be the head of Green Globe. Gee, any secret agenda there?

Jack Brackney
685 Erhart North Rd.
Valley City, Ohio 44280

Tiana's already been back, Jack, so tell us what you thought. And you can *count* on Ravage's sister, Miranda, having a secret agenda.

It's NEW VILLAIN MONTH in MARVEL 2099

Spider-Man 2099 #17 Sure, the crossover was called "Fall of the Hammer," but where did Thor's hammer fall? It fell to Bloodhammer, and you'll meet him this ish!
Doom 2099 #15 You lucky, lucky people get to witness "The Coming of Radian!" Also, this marks the first appearance of Feng Huang! Let's just say...you'll remember her!
Punisher 2099 #14 You asked for new villains from Pat and Tony...and boy, will you be glad you asked! This one's so wild, we're keepin' mum! Maybe we'll tell ya about it later...
X-Men 2099 #6 You also asked us for a super-villain team that could top the Ratpack...and John and Ron give it to you with...the Freakshow! Plus, the team breaks up!

NEXT ISSUE

New villain month doesn't stop with the above! Next, we introduce a villain so sinister, and with such a bizarre origin, that he has only this designation for now...X-11! Plus, Ravage goes claw to claw with the Throwback! *Two* villains, but we don't charge a cent extra! We must be nuts!